

**Patent Claims:**

1. Method of making an industrial fabric comprising the following steps:
  - applying a radiation – curable powder onto the surface of a fabric,
  - melting the powder such that the powder forms a layer on the fabric surface,
  - directing radiation at said surface layer so as to cure the constituent material of said coating layer.
2. Method of repairing a damaged industrial fabric comprising the following steps:
  - applying a radiation – curable powder to the surface of the damaged area of the fabric,
  - melting the powder such that the powder forms a layer within the damaged area which is continuous with the surface of the undamaged area of the fabric,
  - directing radiation at said surface layer so as to cure the constituent material of said layer.
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that said powder comprises polymeric particles.
4. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that said powder comprises solid polymer resin containing unsaturated groups.

5. Method according to claim 4 ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that said unsaturated groups contain acrylate or methacrylate or vinyl  
ether or maleimide and epoxide or maleic and fumaric double bonds.
- 5 6. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that said powder comprises at least one initiator, preferably 1-Hydroxy  
cyclohexyl phenyl ketone (HCPK) or  $\alpha$ -hydroxy ketone (AHK) or bisacyl  
phosphine oxide (BAPO) or the like.
- 10 7. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that a non-porous layer is achieved by applying a thick layer in one  
step or by applying several subsequent layers on top of each other.
- 15 8. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that a porous layer is achieved by applying a thin layer and / or by first  
wetting the surface of said fabric with a liquid before applying the  
powder onto said surface.
- 20 9. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that the powder is applied to the fabric by electrostatically spraying.
- 25 10. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that the powder is melted by using heat, preferably in the range from  
100°C to 150°C, and / or by using IR radiation, preferably of  
wavelength in the range from 1 $\mu$ m to 1mm.

11. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that the powder is cured by using UV radiation, preferably of  
wavelength in the range from 10 nm to 1000nm, most preferably in the  
5 range from 100nm to 450nm.

12. Method according to one of the preceding claims ,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n ,  
that the thickness of the layer is between 60µm and 150µm.